



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

September 23, 2016

**NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT FOR THE
CALIFORNIA CELERY RESEARCH PROGRAM
SET AT \$0.018 PER CWT**

TO THE CALIFORNIA CELERY PRODUCER ADDRESSED:

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department), upon recommendation of the California Celery Research Advisory Board (Board), has established an assessment rate of one and eight-tenths cents per one hundred pounds (\$0.018 per cwt.) to be levied on all celery producers. The assessment rate applies to the season beginning October 1, 2016, and continuing through September 30, 2017. The assessment rate is applicable on all celery delivered by producers and received by handlers. This assessment rate is the same as last year's rate.

Assessments due will be remitted directly to the California Celery Research Board (531-D North Alta Avenue, Dinuba, CA 93618) by each first handler of celery produced in California during the period October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017. Any producer who handles his or her own celery is also a handler and shall be responsible for payment of the full assessment due.

Assessment payments are due and payable on the first day of each month following the month in which celery is harvested and prepared for market. If assessments are not paid (postmarked) by the 15th of the month in which they are due, they will be considered delinquent. Handlers whose assessment payments are delinquent may be subject to penalty provisions of the Food and Agricultural Code. Assessment reports will be supplied monthly to all handlers for reporting and payment of assessments.

In determining the assessment, the following conversion factors for fresh celery are to be used: \$0.0108 per standard container (carton) and \$0.0108 per WGA heart material container; \$0.0045 per one dozen celery hearts container (carton); \$0.009 per two dozen celery hearts container (carton) and \$0.00675 per eighteen celery hearts container (carton). Celery marketed for processing will be assessed by actual net weight.

Persons who produce and market less than 300,000 pounds (3,000 cwt.) of celery during October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017, may apply for a refund of assessments collected following September 30, 2017. The refund of assessments shall be made upon the application of the producer and upon verification of the quantity of celery produced for market and delivered to handlers during said marketing season.

If you have questions concerning the assessment rate or California Celery Research Program, contact J.D. Allen, Program Manager, at 559-591-0434, or Justin Ellerby, CDFA Economist, at 916-900-5018.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief
Marketing Branch

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